

# Tour Sequoia's amazing Crystal Cave!



Learn how these curtains of stone formed!

No tickets are sold at the cave, only at Lodgepole and Foothills visitor centers.

Buy tickets at least 1 ½ hours in advance (see traffic-delay information on back page).

**White nose syndrome** is a disease that has killed millions of bats in other states. This summer, the parks may have simple screening and decontamination steps at park caves in order to protect these amazing mammals. Learn more about the benefits of bats and support their protection!

**Crystal Cave Road:** 15 miles from Sequoia Park entrance at Hwy 198; 3 miles south of the General Sherman Tree (see back-page map). Maximum vehicle length is 22' (6.7 m) on this road.

Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes; the ½-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Wear a jacket; it's 50°F (10°C) inside. No baby backpacks, strollers, or tripods. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about group reservations and wild cave tours: 1-559-565-3759.

## • 45-minute Cave Tours daily starting May 14<sup>th</sup>

Note: Opening depends on snow. Tours are subject to change.

• 5/14 through 6/24: Weekdays 11am-3pm. Saturday-Sunday 11am-4pm. Memorial Day weekend (5/27-30): 10:30am-5:30pm.

• Starting 6/25: Weekdays 10:30am-4:30pm. Saturday, Sunday & July 4th weekend (7/1-4) 10am-5pm.

Fees: Age 5-12 \$7; age 13-61 \$13; age 4 and under free; Golden Age (age 62 & up) and Golden Access passholders \$12. National Park and Interagency passes do not apply. Discount for SNHA members! Flashlight versions of the tours may be substituted for regular tours.

## • 1½-hour Discovery Tours start June 20<sup>th</sup>

Weekdays only, 4:15pm. Enjoy a more in-depth tour of this fabulous cave. Limited to 18 people aged 12 & up. Fee: \$16 each.

## • 1½-hour Historic Candle-Light Tours start June 23<sup>th</sup>

Thursday-Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday-Sunday 6pm. Experience the cave as its discoverers did! Limited to 18 people aged 12 & up. Fee: \$16.

**FREE WALKS & TALKS:** Ranger-led programs are offered at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, or the Foothills. Programs in Cedar Grove and Mineral King start by early June. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for schedules, and see pages 8 and 9 for more information.

## VISITOR CENTER EXHIBITS & STORES:

Each center offers different exhibits and an excellent selection of books, maps, postcards, posters, and other items. All your purchases there help to support the parks! See pages 8-9 for details.

## JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

**FREE** for all ages. If you are 5 to 105 years old, you can become a Sequoia & Kings Canyon Junior Ranger! To earn your badge, pick up a free booklet at any visitor center and complete the activities for your age group. Have fun!

**TEACHERS:** Fun, curriculum-based programs for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grades offered in spring and fall. Topics include sequoia life cycles and adaptations, species interdependence, and local cultural history. Call for details and reservations: 1-559-565-4303.

# Activities

## WHERE CAN I...

**Your visit may include both a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest (USFS). Activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest (see page 2 for details). Know which area you are in (see back page)!**

• **WALK A PET - In the Parks:** Not on any trails. It's o.k. 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds). **In the National Forest:** Pets can go on trails. **In both areas:** Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Never leave pets in cars when it's warm as they overheat quickly.

• **COLLECT THINGS TO TAKE HOME - Not in Parks:** Leave things where you find them to play their natural role in the ecosystem. **In the National Forest:** Keeping a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. **In both areas:** Archeological sites and artifacts are protected by law.

• **HUNT - Not in the Parks.** Visitors are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park. It is prohibited to discharge a firearm in the parks. **In the National Forest:** Only during the season with a license: 1-559-243-4005.

• **GO CAMPING - In the Parks:** Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. **In the National Forest:** In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull a safe distance off the road but no further.

• **DRIVE OHVs OFF-ROAD - Not in the parks.** Stay on roads. **In the National Forest:** Off-highway-vehicle (OHV) routes are available. Get details at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap on Hwy 180 or Kings Canyon Visitor Center at Grant Grove.

• **CUT WOOD - Not in the Parks.** **In the National Forest:** Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit and guidelines: 559-338-2251.

• **GO PICNICKING** - See picnic symbols on back-page map. **Due to bears, never leave food unattended!** Most sites have tables, restrooms and fire grills, except: No fire grills at Foothills and Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Halstead, Powdercan, Lodgepole, and Crescent Meadow.

• **SNOWMOBILE** **Not in the Parks.** **In National Forest:** Only on designated snowmobile routes. Snowmobile trailheads at Cherry Gap, Big Meadows, & Quail Flat. For information: 1-559-338-2251.

• **HAVE A FIRE** **In the Parks:** Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. **In National Forest:** Free fire permits required, even for gas stoves and lanterns. Some areas are more restricted than others. Get permits at Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (in Grant Grove) or USFS office in Dunlap on Hwy 180.

• **GO FISHING - In both areas:** Permitted during fishing season. California fishing licenses are required for ages 16 & up. Ask for copies of park regulations.

• **RIDE BICYCLES - In the Parks:** Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail (other than the designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). **In the National Forest:** Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. **In both areas:** Be careful: You are sharing the narrow road with wide RVs. Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People younger than 18 must wear helmets.

• **GET CELL-PHONE SERVICE** - See top right of page 4, Be Safe.

## • RIDE HORSEBACK

Spring opening dates depend on weather. Rides, backcountry spot trips, or guided trips.

• **Cedar Grove** - late May 1-559-565-3464 summer 1-559-337-2314 off season  
• **Grant Grove** - early June 1-559-335-9292 summer 1-559-799-7247 off season  
• **Horse Corral** - early June at Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest 1-559-565-3404 summer 1-559-679-3573 cell